

Wendy from the Windy City

Originally from Chicago, I've lived in cities including Augusta (the one in Georgia), Arlington (the one near Washington, DC), and several CA cities in the San Francisco north bay area. I revel in experiencing different cultures and points of view.



Phase 1: My Former Life in Financial Analysis

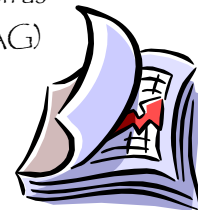
Focusing on communication in the financial world, I attained a BBA in Accounting and an MBA in Financial Management from [Augusta State University](#). Additionally, I've achieved a certificate in Technical Communication from [Rochester Institute of Technology](#). Amazingly, I was



evolving into being the one who volunteered (or who was volunteered) to interface with developers whenever my employers throughout the years purchased new software. I even penned an article about software that was published in 1988 in the *Journal of Property Management*. But after working as a director at an HMO (after 16 years in the work world in myriad industries), I actually had an epiphany—my performing of financial analysis (that is, my usual work duties at the time) was just simply getting in the way of what I was truly enjoying since 1991 (documentation, testing, and training of whatever software my employers were using).

Phase 2: My Next Life in Technical Communication

So, I became Founder/Owner/President/Principal Consultant/Bottle Washer/et al. for my own business entitled Solutions Consulting for two years. My main projects were for clients such as 25 states who received federal block grants as well as CompUSA. One of my clients, [MainControl](#) (then MRO Software, now IBM), managed to woo me to leave my company and become its employee to author software user guides for its Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) product suite used by international clients. I next thoroughly delighted in my position as Senior Technical Writer at [webMethods](#) (now Software AG) where I created software documentation for intelligent integration adapters used within (enterprise) and between (B2B) backend systems such as ClarifyCRM and Enterprise JavaBeans by over 900 of the Global 2000 customers.



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Phase 3: A Great Adventure

I'm on a sabbatical--intensely focused on managing my health symptoms. All throughout the day, I treasure finding the Zen and bliss in everyday life. I'm a third degree Reiki practitioner and practice qigong and meditation daily.



As part of my art therapy, I enjoy photographing the beauty that's all around us. Some photos have been published including *Orange Jellies!* (see left) and *Swing Amongst the Buttercups* (see below).

For a few years, I'd been moved to experiment with acrylic paint and mixed media to communicate ideas beyond the photography medium. It was fun to display my art in several juried gallery shows.

Called to contribute to my community, I was a board member of my homeowners association in VA and CA. I also enjoy tutoring Spanish-speaking English-as-Second-Language (ESL) adult students.



I've overcome bipolar challenges that surfaced in 2007; I'm successfully working on burn scar issues from 2009. I'm working on improving my Spanish-speaking proficiency. I'm also learning to sew because I'd like to design and make my own clothes as well as outfit my home.

Do you think that finding the humor in situations is delightfully therapeutic and fun--that we all can be inspired to turn "lemons into lemonade" and find "win-win situations"? :-)